(3) Meghai bridge in Km. 88 of NH-29.

(4) Ami bridge in Km. 188/2 of NH-29.

(5) Traina bridge in Km. 165 of NH-29.

(c) This will be known after 9th Five Year Plan is finalised.

[English]

Irrigation Potential of River Ichhamati

305. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have prepared a multi-purpose comprehensive master plan for the rejuvenation, drainage and exploitation of irrigation potentials of the River Ichhamati in the district of North-24 Parganas and Nadia of West Bengal and to link it with the Ganga;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the scheme;

(d) whether the scheme has since been abandoned;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether the Government would resume the execution of the scheme with necessary modifications ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Government of West Bengal has not submitted any Proposal regarding a master plan for the modernisation and exploitation of the river Ichhamati for approval by the Centre.

(c) to (f) Does not arise.

Assistance for Irrigation Projects

306. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government provides assistance to States for irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the names of the projects in Bihar for which assistance has been provided so far, indicating the project-wise amount of assistance extended alongwith more lying pending due to paucity of funds;

(c) the names of other projects for which Bihar Government had sent proposals, seeking assistance from the Centre;

(d) the latest position with regard to these proposals;

(e) whether Bihar Government has been provided much less amount of assistance, as compared to other States; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Central Government releases block loans and grants to the State Government not tied to any sector of development or project. However, the Central Government has recently launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to give Central Loan Assistance to State Governments for irrigation projects.

(b) to (f) Bihar Government had sent a proposal seeking assistance for the Kosi, Upper Koel, Durgawati, Subernarekha, Sone Modernisation, North Koel, Ajay Barrage and Auranga Projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme. The following projects have been provided Central Loan Assistance under AIBP in 1996-97 :

(Amount in Rs. crores)

S. No.	Name of Project	Loan sanctioned	Amount released
1.	Kosi	20.00	10.00
2.	Upper Koel	5.00	2.50
3.	Durgawati	2.00	1.00

Other projects could not be given assistance as they did not fulfil the stipulated conditions of AIBP.

[Translation]

C.R.F. under Parliament Resolution

307. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Parliament had passed a resolution to provide additional funds to the States under the Central Road Fund for undertaking maintenance and development of roads;

(b) if so, whether this resolution had been implemented; and

(c) if so, the details and if not, the reasons therefor and the reasons for not making an increase in the Central Road Fund even after passing of the resolution ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Two Houses of the Parliament passed a revised resolution in 1988 to augment the Central Road Fund.

(b) and (c) The Implementation of the resolution is under consideration.

[English]

Silicosis Bronchital Disease

308. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :